30

35

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Jean-Pierre Bertin, et al.

Filed: Herewith

For: MASTER/SLAVE APPARATUS FOR RECEIVING

5 AUDIOVISUAL PROGRAMS

## PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Hon. Assistant Commissioner for Patents 10 Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination and calculation of fees, please enter the following Preliminary Amendment and the accompanying remarks.

## IN THE ABSTRACT

Please replace the abstract with the following:

--An apparatus for receiving an audiovisual program comprising a circuit for communication with means of connection to a bidirectional communication network, wherein the apparatus comprises: a first connector for communication with a master apparatus; a second connector for communication with a peripheral apparatus; a means of transmission of a supply voltage on the first connector originating from the master apparatus; and means of detection of the presence of the supply voltage on the first connector, the means of detection controlling a switching circuit for going from a master mode of operation of the apparatus in relation to the peripheral apparatus in the case of the absence of the voltage, and from a slave mode of operation in relation to the master apparatus when the voltage is present.--

## REMARKS

The abstract has been amended to correct informalities. No new matter is believed to be added.

No fee is believed due in regard to the present amendment. However, if a fee is due, please charge the fee to Deposit Account 07-0832.

10

5

Respectfully submitted, Jean-Pierre Bertin, et al.

15

By: Paul P. Kiel, Attorney for Applicants Reg. No. 40,677 609-734-9650

Date: August 30 , 200

THOMSON multimedia Licensing Inc. Patent Operations PO Box 5312 Princeton, NJ 08543-5312